

MESSAGE

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
STAFF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

Return to Staff
Bailey **ACTION**
EME
1 DCSOPS
2 FIA
3 EME
4 Rec R

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PRIORITY

AC PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED
Except prior to Category B encryption
Physically remove all internal refs
by DTG prior to declassification
No unclass ref if DTG is quoted

Authority: **NND 901053**
By: **HR-m/sg** 1/15/91

FROM: CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GERMANY

TO: DEPTAR WASH DC

INFO: USAMBASSADOR BONN GERMANY, CGUSCOB BERLIN GERMANY,
USMLM BERLIN GERMANY, USCINCEUR PARIS FRANCE,
CGUSARSEVEN VAIHINGEN GERMANY.

NR: SX 5064

071617Z JUL 58

DA: PASS TO STATE FOR DULLES AND TO DEFENSE FOR McELROY.

1. References: A. SX 4570, this Hq, 12 Jun 58.
B. SX 4558, this Hq, 12 Jun 58.

2. Request approval to transmit following message
from CINCUSAREUR to CINC group Soviet Forces, Germany (GSFG)
as soon as possible.

3. "Estimated general:

"In connection with the nine members of my
command who inadvertently landed in a US Army helicopter
near Zwickau on 7 June 1958 and who have been detained in
East Germany since that date, I repeat my request that you
insure the return of the nine men and of the helicopter to
my control without further delay.

"I draw your attention to recent press reports
of an interview with these men in Dresden on 2 Jul 1958. This
interview was sponsored by East German officials. According
to the press reports the interview brought out that the nine
men initially reported to East German police, who promptly
turned them over to Soviet military authorities. The men
spent the night of 7-8 June in Soviet custody, and on the
morning of 8 June were given by the Soviet authorities into
the custody of East German authorities with the pledge that they would
soon be released.

No Action Required: EME

Off: Signature _____

Date: _____

RETURN TO RECORDS BY 130910

DA IN 130910

22-477 7 JUL 58)

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REPLACES OCS FORM /
375-2, 1 AUG. 51, WHICH
MAY BE USED.

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3-2

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"These press reports have not been denied by East German officials and must be considered factual.

"You may recall that senior lieutenant Vturin, Soviet External Relations Branch at 0330, 8 June 1958 gave the following message to Colonel McQuail, US Military Liaison Mission: 'In answer to inquiry of USAREUR as to location of lost helicopter and passengers, Soviet forces in Germany have made investigations and have received following information from competent authority. A US Army helicopter flew over the territory of East Germany of 7 June and made a landing in vicinity of Zwickau. In making the landing, the helicopter was damaged, but all personnel uninjured. Both personnel and helicopter are in the hands of the proper East German authorities to whom inquiries and requests for return should be made.'

"Furthermore, your note delivered to me on 12 June 1958 by General Suvorov, Soviet Military Liaison Mission, contains the following: 'I must state that the question raised by you in your query of 8 June this year is not in the province of commanding the group of Soviet Forces in Germany, but is solely within the competence of the authorities of the German Democratic Republic. As I learned from GDR press releases, an American Army helicopter on 7 Jun 58 violated the air space of the GDR and was forced to land in the southern part of the Karl-Mark-Stadt district. The vehicle and passengers were detained by the German police and taken into custody by the authorities of the Germany Democratic Republic.'

"In amplification of your note, General Suvorov stated to me that the circumstances were unfortunate from the start in that the helicopter and those aboard came into East German hands rather than Soviet, and that, had the personnel come into Soviet Army custody, Colonel Sergeyev could have handled the matter expeditiously.

"In view of the obvious contradictions outlined above, I must reiterate my view that the return to my control of the nine US Army personnel and helicopter is and always has been within the competence of the group Soviet Forces, Germany. Signed Hodes"

DA IN 130910

(7 JUL 58)

SCO FORM
8 JUN 58

35-2

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4. Although unlikely that Soviet reaction will differ materially from that in reference B., this message would tend to clear the official record and might have value from a public relations standpoint.

NOTE: This message has been transmitted to STATE.

NOTE: 4558 is DA IN 124111 (12 Jun 58) DCSOP
4570 is DA IN 124185 (12 Jun 58) DCSOP

ACTION: DCSOP

INFO: OCS, ACSI, DCSPER, CI, OSA, OSD, JCS, AF, NAVY, CMC,
ACSI (STATE, CIA), CLL

DA IN 130910

(7 Jul 58)

der/12

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